

## Reminder: \*Steel shot is required on all GPA's and WPA's Aurora County

Lynn Geuke



### Fishing report:

**Wilmarth Mitchell:** NO VEHICLES OFF ROAD.

**Reminder:** The minimum length limit on Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass in the lake is 15"  
THE ENTIRE LAKE OF WILMARTH IS A NO WAKE ZONE!

**Nelson Lake:** No report. NO VEHICLES DRIVING OFF ROADS.



**Hunting report:** Pheasant hunter success has been good in the area... most individuals have done well walking public road right of ways and Game Production Areas. Duck hunting should pick up with the colder weather moving in. Deer have started prerutting some in the area.

## Beadle County

Chris Kuntz



**Fishing Report:** A couple walleye have been caught near the 3rd St dam, slow overall.

**James River:** Slow.

**Lake Byron:** Slow.

**Mud Lake:** Slow.

**Cavour Lake:** Slow.

**Ravine:** Slow.



**Hunting Report:** Pheasant hunters have been having good success averaging about 2 birds/ hunter. Corn is about half out.

Remember to make sure you are at least 660ft away from any occupied dwelling, livestock, church or school when road hunting.

## Bon Homme County

Todd Crownover



### Fishing Report

**Missouri River:** Fishing has slowed some since last week. Catfish are still biting on worms and stink bait in the shallows. Large and Smallmouth Bass are being caught on artificials but this fall is not as good as last. Drum and whitebass are also biting on worms. Crappies have been spotty but are being caught on minnows. Walleye have been slow but are biting on artificial lures.

**Lake Henry:** Bluegill and crappies are biting on worms and minnows. Small lures are also catching bass and larger crappies.

Remember bass size is 15 inches and the lake is slow-no wake.

**Clear Lake:** No report.

**Merkel Lake (Singleton GPA):** No report.

**Heritage GPA:** Small bluegill and bass are being caught on worms.



**Hunting Report:** No activity.

## Brookings County

Jeff Grendler



### **Fishing Reports:**

**Lake Sinai:** Fishing has been slow. A few walleyes have been picked up but anglers are really having to work for these. A few smallmouth bass have been hitting.

**West Lake Oakwood:** No activity.

**East Oakwood:** No Activity.

**Oak Lake:** No activity.

**Brush Lake:** Quite a few perch are being caught along the road grade. Perch range from 7-10 inches with a few in the 12 inch range.

**Lake Poinsett:** A few walleyes and occasional perch. Fishing has been slow.

**East 81 ponds:** Some nice walleye are being caught. Quite a few 20 +. Bite has been in the evening. Success has been good.

**Lake Hendricks:** Slow, little to no activity.

**Lake Goldsmith:** Slow little to no activity.

**Lake Campbell:** No Activity.

**Dakota Nature Park:** Slow.

**Interstate Lake:** Slow.



**Hunting Report:** Good number of ducks in the area. Water levels are decent with most wetlands public and private having enough to set decoys. Hunters are starting to see a few divers and migrating mallards. More Canada geese are starting to show up in the southwest and northwest part of the county.

Hunters are reminded that when hunting on the water that most of these waters are overflowing over private property and that the land underneath is in private ownership. Hunters need to stay on the water when hunting. Since the land under the water is privately owned hunters walking on or boats touching the bottom is considered trespass. Very few of these lakes have shorelines that are open to public access. Most islands are owned privately on meandered waters.

All hunters are reminded when blocking fields to be aware of their surroundings and making sure they have a clean shot. Most accidents in South Dakota occur when hunters are swinging on game and do not see the other person.

The 660 rule does not apply while hunting private land next to a home. Hunters are allowed to hunt on land they have permission within 660 feet of occupied homes. Hunter should exercise caution when doing so. There are special rules when road hunting. Hunters need to read and understand these rules.

A reminder that pheasants cannot transported without sufficient plumage. This includes a head, wing or foot attached. Hunters need to transport their own game.

## Clay County

Tony Stokely



### **Fishing Report:**

**Missouri River:** Little activity.

**Vermillion River:** Some luck for catfish.



**Hunting Report:** Some success early on for geese on Missouri river. Few pheasants being located in northern part of county.

**Trapping:** Encourage trappers to wait until heavy frost starts.

# Davison County

Andy Petersen



## Fishing Report:

**Remember Firesteel Creek is off limits to the taking of any baitfish.**

**Lake Mitchell:** No report.

**James River:** No report.



**Hunting Report:** Hunters were seeing good groups of birds throughout the area. Hunters still had to work to get birds. There is still a lot of corn unharvested, which is holding a lot of birds. Legal shooting time is at 10:00 am CST the rest of the season. The season closes at sunset each day.

**Waterfowl:** Duck numbers are low around the county. The migration remains north of South Dakota, so until the weather gets colder in Canada and North Dakota, duck hunting will be slow. Hunting pressure has been low.

**Deer:** As the corn harvest continues, the deer will become more visible.

# Hanson County

Andy Petersen/Matt Talbert



## Fishing Report:

**Lake Hanson:** No Report

**Ethan Dam:** No Report

**James River:** No Report



**Hunting Report:** Hunters were seeing good groups of birds throughout the area. Hunters still had to work to get birds. There is still a lot of corn unharvested, which is holding a lot of birds. Legal shooting time is at 10:00 am CST the rest of the season. The season closes at sunset each day.

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# Hutchinson County

Brian Humphrey



**Fishing:** Still a few catfish being caught on the James River near Miltown.



**Hunting:** Lots of pheasants on CREP and GPA areas west of the James River. No reports of any archery deer being harvested yet.

# Jerauld County

Lynn Geuke



**Fishing Report:** No report.



**Hunting Report:** Pheasant hunter success has been good in the area. There has not been much hunting pressure in the area. Hunters should look to see better hunting to come with crops being harvested... duck numbers are low in the area as of now.

# Kingsbury County

Shane Van Bockern



## Fishing Reports:

**Lake Thompson:** Fair for walleye, crappie, pike, white bass, and some perch.

**West 81:** Slow success on walleye smallmouth, and white bass.

**Lake Whitewood:** Slow.

**Lake Henry:** Slow for pike and walleye.

**Lake Albert:** Slow for pike and walleye.

**Spirit Lake:** Slow.

**Lake Preston:** No activity.



**Hunting Report:** Waterfowl hunting has been fair-good. Good numbers of local ducks are still in the county. Canada goose numbers seem to be lower the county than previous years. Pheasant hunters had poor-moderate success last weekend. Large amounts of standing corn and mild weather made locating birds difficult. Hunting should improve when the corn harvest gets underway.

# Lake County

Cody Symens



## Fishing Report:

**Lake Madison:** Anglers catching walleye in the 16-18" range at the Payne's Access.

**Lake Herman:** Minimal angling pressure. Anglers are catching an occasional game fish but they are few and far between.

**Brant Lake:** Minimal angling pressure.

**Long Lake:** No report.

**Lake Henry:** Anglers are enjoying favorable fishing at Lake Henry. Morning and evening bite is the best for walleye in the 15-20" range. Anglers are having their best luck in the boat; however, shore-fishermen are picking up fish as well.

**Lake George:** Slow.



**Hunting Report:** The public areas produced birds throughout Lake County but hunters were still well below a one bird average. Target these areas in the late evening prior to sunset and hunters seem to be doing the best.

**Waterfowl:** Waterfowl hunters do have opportunity in Lake County but scouting is a must. The majority of local ducks have left the area and there are very few fields where ducks are feeding at this time. Canada goose hunting should improve as more cornfields are harvested with the cooler temperatures on the way.

**Pheasants:** Pheasant hunters are harvesting birds on many of the local GPA's and WPA's.

# Lincoln County

Nate Stukel



## Fishing Report:

**Big Sioux:** Very little fishing activity this past week.

**Hudson:** The Rainbow Trout are biting.

**Lake Alvin:** No activity.

**Lake Lakota:** No activity.



### **Hunting Report:**

**Waterfowl:** Fewer birds have been observed in the county this week compared to last week. More birds should move into the area as the temperature begins to drop.

**Pheasants:** Pheasant hunters have had decent success hunting private ground with good habitat. Opportunity exists on public hunting areas in the county if an individual is willing to do some walking.

**Deer:** Deer activity should really start to pick up by early next week.

## **McCook County**

**Matt Talbert**



### **Fishing Report:**

**Lake Vermillion:** Shore anglers have had some luck on Catfish. Not much water is running over the spillway reducing the likelihood of catching anything in that area. Boat anglers have been picking up a few walleye here and there early and late in the day.

**Island Lake:** Shore and Boat anglers will have some luck on pike and smallmouth bass.

**Lehrman Slough:** No fishing activity seen.



### **Hunting Report:**

**Waterfowl-** Plenty of ducks in the area.

## **Miner County**

**Evan Meyer**



**Fishing Report:** No activity.



**Hunting Report:** Hunting activity is picking up with the cooler temperatures. Waterfowl numbers are slowly picking up with larger groups of ducks showing up. Pheasant hunters are having some success both walking and road hunting. **REMINDER of safety zone while road hunting!!!** Archery hunting is getting more intense with more crops harvested and rut starting to show up in younger bucks.

## **Minnehaha County**

**Jared Hill**



### **Fishing Report:**

**Beaver Lake:** A few walleye, small perch and crappie.

**Scott Slough:** Bullheads fair to good. A few small perch and walleye.

**Island Lake:** A few pike, perch, and walleye.

**Loss Lake:** Bullheads fair and a few walleye.

**Lost Lake:** No reports.

**Twin Lakes:** Walleyes fair to good. **(REMEMBER: 28 inch minimum on Walleyes.)**

**Family Park:** A few trout, bluegill, and crappie.

**Wall Lake:** A few walleye, blue gill, and crappie.

**Clear Lake:** No reports.



**Hunting Report:** Look for more ducks to move into the area with the cooler temps. Goose hunters who have spent time scouting are having success. Try and pattern the birds to maximize your opportunity. Duck hunter have been having fair to good success. Pheasant numbers appear to be better this year.

**Reminder – Be aware of where you are and what around you when hunting.**

# Moody County

Chad Williams



## Fishing Report:

**Big Sioux River:** Activity has slow down. There are not many anglers fishing river this time of year, but those who do usually have fairly decent success at catching a nice walleye or two.



**Hunting Report:** Hunters are averaging about a bird per person in the areas with higher numbers of pheasants. The corn fields are quickly coming out and success will increase. Hunters that were successful were hunting the evening (last couple hours) near good stands of grass / wetlands next to cornfields.

# Sanborn County

Evan Meyer



**Fishing Report:** Fishing activity has been minimal in the county.



**Hunting Report:** Hunting activity is picking up with the cooler temperatures. Waterfowl numbers are slowly picking up with larger groups of ducks showing up. Pheasant hunters are having some success both walking and road hunting. **REMINDER of safety zone while road hunting!!!** Archery hunting is getting more intense with more crops harvested and rut starting to show up in younger bucks.

# Turner County

Brian Humphrey



**Fishing Report:** I have had a few reports of some nice walleye being caught at Swan Lake north of Viborg.



**Hunting:** Duck and geese can be found at Mud Lake GPA east of Hurley. Pheasant hunters are having to work a little to find birds in Turner County. No reports of any archery deer being harvested yet.

# Union County

Tony Stokely / Nate Stukel



## Fishing Report:

**Missouri River:** Few anglers finding paddlefish, many in the slot.

**Big Sioux River:** Low activity.

**McCook Lake:** Little to no activity.

**Reminder:** There must be a wearable lifejacket of appropriate size for everybody on board your boat.



**Hunting Report:** Minimal success for pheasants in northern part of county. Waterfowlers not seeing birds with nice weather.

**Trapping:** Activity has started, but fur is not ready yet. Trappers encouraged to wait until temperatures get to freezing point.

# Yankton County

Dan Altman



## **Fishing Report:**

**Marindahl:** Fishing pressure and catch rates are low.

**Lewis and Clark:** Fishing pressure and catch rates have increased over the past two weeks. Anglers fishing from boats are having the most success catching walleye. Some walleye are also being picked up around Lewis and Clark Marina causeway.

**James River:** No report.

**Lake Yankton:** **DEAD!!!** The first stage of the Lake Yankton renovation project is complete. Stocking efforts are scheduled for this fall

**Missouri River:** Paddlefish snagging season is open to limited license holders. Snaggers are having decent success but many of the fish caught are in the protected slot range (35" – 45").



**Hunting Report:** The Unit 1 Canada goose season and duck seasons are currently open in Yankton County. Duck hunters report good numbers of small ducks have moved into the area. Hunters focused on the northern part of Yankton County are having the best success. **Remember, the limit for Canada geese in Unit 1 is now 8 geese instead of 15 geese.**

Archery and Youth deer seasons are currently open. Deer numbers have increased in Yankton County compared to last year. Deer numbers are below normal in the central/north part of the county and are high in other isolated areas.